



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan, Bucks County District Attorney Diane E. Gibbons, and Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce L. Castor, Jr., announced today the filing of a 5-count Indictment¹ charging defendants **PEDRITO SANTIAGO MORETA, VITALY LIBERMAN, and WALTER EARL LEON, JR.** with committing two separate armed robberies of the commercial establishments listed below on August 24, 2005. **MORETA and LEON** are charged with participating in both armed robberies. **LIBERMAN** is charged with only one robbery

No.	BUSINESS	DEFENDANT NAME
1	Brinks Incorporated at Woori American Bank 7400 Front Street Elkins Park, PA	PEDRITO SANTIAGO MORETA and WALTER EARL LEON, JR.
2	Check Cashing Station 721 Bristol Pike, Croyden, PA	PEDRITO SANTIAGO MORETA, VITALY LIBERMAN, and WAL- TER EARL LEON, JR.

The indictment charges that during the robberies the defendants brandished firearms and threatened to injure and kill employees to obtain money. It is also alleged that MORETA shot both an employee and defendant LIBERMAN during the robbery of the Check Cashing Station.

If convicted of all counts in the indictment, the defendants are facing the following maximum sentences:

¹ **An Indictment or Information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.**

PEDRITO SANTIAGO MORETA	lifetime imprisonment with a mandatory minimum of 32 years, up to 5 years supervised release, a \$1,250,000 fine and a \$500 special assessment
VITALY LIBERMAN	lifetime imprisonment with a mandatory minimum of 10 years, up to 5 years supervised release, a \$750,000 fine and a \$300 special assessment
WALTER EARL LEON, JR.	lifetime imprisonment with a mandatory minimum of 32 years, up to 5 years supervised release, a \$1,250,000 fine and a \$500 special assessment

This investigation and prosecution was part of *Project Safe Neighborhoods*, a joint initiative by the United States Attorney's Office, each of the nine District Attorney's Offices in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to identify and prosecute dangerous firearms offenders in federal court, where the defendants are likely to receive a substantial sentence upon conviction.

This case has been investigated by the FBI, the Bristol Township Police Department, the Cheltenham Township Police Department and other state and local law enforcement agencies. The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Francis C. Barbieri, Jr.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
PEDRITO SANTIAGO MORETA	N. Philip Street Philadelphia, PA	21 years old
VITALY LIBERMAN	Rutland Street Philadelphia, PA	23 years old
WALTER EARL LEON, JR.	Claridge Street Philadelphia, PA	19 years old

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